

THE SPIRITUALITY OF PETS

(Quotes and Prayers)



**St. James United Church of Christ
Havertown, PA
www.StJamesUCC.org**

“The reason birds can fly and we can’t is simply that they have perfect faith, for to have faith is to have wings.”

~ James Matthew Barrie, Author Peter Pan

“People always joke that ‘dog’ spells ‘God’ backwards. They should consider that it might be the higher power coming down to see how well they do, what kind of people they are. The animals are right here, right in front of us. And how we treat these companions is a test.”

~ Linda Blair, Actress, Animal Activist

“Ask of the beasts and they will teach you the beauty of this earth.”

~ St. Francis of Assisi

“Who can believe that there is no soul behind those luminous eyes!”

~ Theophile Gautier, French Poet

“Folks will know how large your soul is, by the way you treat a dog!”

~ Charles F. Doran

“Be like the bird that pausing in her flight awhile on bough too slight, feels them give way beneath her, and yet sings, knowing that she hath wings.”

~ Victor Hugo, French Novelist and Poet

“If having a soul means being able to feel love and loyalty and gratitude, then animals are better off than a lot of humans.”

~ James Herriot, Scottish Veterinarian and Writer

“The fish in the water is silent, the animal on the earth is noisy, the bird in the air is singing. But man has in him the silence of the sea, the noise of the earth and the music of the air.”

~ Rabindranath Tagore, Indian Poet

“The wind flew. God told the wind to condense itself and out of the flurry came the horse. But with the spark of spirit the horse flew by the wind itself.”

~ Marguerite Henry, King of the Wind

“There are two things for which animals are to be envied: they know nothing of future evils, or what people say about them.”

~ Voltaire

“Only animals were not expelled from Paradise.”

~ Milan Kundera

“All animals except man know that the ultimate (point) of life is to enjoy it.”

~ Samuel Butler

“Our task must be to free ourselves... by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature and its beauty.”

~ Albert Einstein

“There is no greater pleasure than having a dog. And that’s a scientific fact!”

~ Louis Sabin, Commenting on a University Study on the Effect of Owning A Dog

“Perhaps pets are to humans as humans are to God.”

~ James Taylor, The Spirituality of Pets

“No matter how little money or how few possessions you own, having a dog makes you rich.”

~ Louis Sabin, Author

“A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself.”

~ Josh Billings, American Humorist

“I think we are drawn to dogs because they are the uninhibited creatures we might be if we weren’t certain we knew better.”

~ George Bird Evans, Trouble With Bird Dogs

“Horses change lives. They give our young people confidence and self-esteem. They provide peace and tranquility to troubled souls - they give us hope!

~ Toni Robinson

“Dogs are miracles with paws.”

~ Susan Ariel Rainbow Kennedy

“In order to really enjoy a dog, one doesn’t merely try to train him to be semi-human. The point of it is to open oneself to the possibility of becoming partly a dog.”

~ Edward Hoagland, Nature Writer

You think dogs will not be in heaven? I tell you, they will be there long before any of us.”

~ Robert Louis Stevenson, Novelist

“If there are no dogs in Heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went.”

~ Will Rogers, American Entertainer

“Children and dogs are as necessary to the welfare of the country as Wall Street and railroads.”

~ Harry S. Truman

“My dogs give unconditional love, and they have taught me how to love unconditionally also. They go into a hospital room and look past the burn-scarred face of a man to his very heart and soul. With the wag of her tail, the dog says, “I love you – unconditionally.”

~ Gwen Meyer, Pets For Life Program

“Animals are such agreeable friends-they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms.”

~ George Eliot, (Mary Ann Evans), Novelist

“Through the days of love and celebration and joy, and through the dark days of mourning-the faithful horse has been with us always.”

~ Elizabeth Cotton, Folk Musician

“We give dogs time we can spare, space we can spare and love we can spare. And in return, dogs give us their all. It’s the best deal man has ever made.”

~ M. Facklam

“If people were superior to animals, they’d take better care of the world.”

~ A.A. Milne, Author

“A bluebird carries the sky on his back.”

~ Henry David Thoreau, Author and Naturalist

“We can only hope to achieve as humans, what comes so freely from our pets...unconditional love, loyalty and true companionship.”

~ Darcy Bomford

Prayer for Our Pet(s)

Blessed are you Lord God of the Universe.

In your infinite wisdom you created the universe and blessed us with all living creatures. I especially thank you for entrusting me with my pet, my friend who brings me so much happiness and whose presence very often helps me get through trying times. Please bless my pet(s) and make me a responsible steward of your creature. May we continue to give each other joy and remind us of your power. As my pet(s) trusts me to take care of him/her, help me remember to trust you to take care of us, for in so doing we share in your love for all your creatures. And especially, we remember all endangered species and ask your help in taking care of them so that we may continue to appreciate all of your creation. Amen.



i thank You God for most this amazing day: for the
leaping greenly spirits of trees and a blue true dream
of sky; and for everything which is natural which is
infinite which is yes

E.E. Cummings